

## EDITOR'S PAGE

In this issue of MARITIME SEDIMENTS we wish to draw attention to the increased effort in micropaleontological research, as given both in the section under Reports as well as under Current Research. The introduction of the Scanning Electron Microscope will bring wide changes in the field of taxonomy, structure and morphology as related to the Foraminifera in particular. These developments will be covered in succeeding issues of your journal.

Another significant item is the increased exploration presently underway on the Atlantic continental shelf. The greatest single venture is the deep drill hole on Sable Island at the edge of the shelf, a hole which may terminate as one of the deepest on the continent and perhaps as a major discovery of oil and gas. Magazines such as OIL WEEK, Calgary, Alberta, have given accounts of this exploration and of that of the industry in general. Nearly 200 million acres are now under lease and as exploration proceeds over these areas, a vast store of geological and geophysical information is to be gained. Besides the efforts of the petroleum industry, the mining concerns are exploring the inshore areas in the search for economic placers in the modern and buried alluvium and beaches. This two-fold attack of private industry on the natural resources of the shelf areas is complemented in part by the work of government agencies and the universities. Teams of surveyors and researchers are working on a 12-month basis at sea or in the laboratories in an attempt to provide charts, facilities, equipment, and knowledge that will assist in elucidating the geological history of these areas as well as the genesis of the material they contain.

Under current research we have included the work of several graduate students in order to show the calibre of present day investigations and to encourage receipt to MARITIME SEDIMENTS of further submissions from the universities who have such programs underway. Progress reports from university staff are always welcome, and we depend heavily on these contributions.

Our current bibliography, as well as giving a fine list of accessions for your libraries, also includes two important longer reports of the Geological Survey of Canada. One deals with the important issue of data storage and retrieval, while the other is a powerful summary of activities and results of the Canadian upper mantle project.

As well as the regular annual meetings of the geological societies, two interesting conferences are planned for 1968. The Hudson Bay Symposium is a two-day affair to be held in Ottawa in February, and the Quaternary field and technical conference is to be held in Chicoutimi, Quebec for three days in early September.

Finally we wish to welcome not only new subscribers to MARITIME SEDIMENTS, but the new additions to our mast head. To David Ross at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Alan Gordon at University of New Brunswick (St. John), Arthur King at Memorial University of Newfoundland and Jean LaJoie at Universite de Montreal, Montreal, we extend our greetings.

B. R. PELLETIER, Editor.